

# News

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## **Consumer Price Index for Kansas City Annual changes from the first half of 2003 to the first half of 2004**

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Kansas City metropolitan area increased 1.7 percent from the first half of 2003 to the first half of 2004, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. According to Acting Regional Commissioner John Gordon, prices for food and beverages rose faster than those for any other major expenditure category. Rising energy prices also had an impact, with a gain of 9.5 percent over the period. Excluding food and energy, the CPI for Kansas City rose 0.7 percent from the first half of 2003 to the first half of 2004.

The food and beverages index rose 2.9 percent over the year. Food prices increased 3.0 percent, with prices for food at home rising 3.6 percent and prices for food away from home up 3.2 percent. Prices for alcoholic beverages edged up 0.5 percent.

Housing costs rose 2.5 percent from the first half of 2003 to the first half of 2004. Shelter costs were up 2.9 percent, with rent of primary residence rising 1.7 percent and owners' equivalent rent of a primary residence increasing 3.1 percent. Prices for fuels and utilities rose 4.2 percent, with costs for utility (piped) gas service increasing 11.3 percent and electricity prices edging up 0.6 percent. Prices for household furnishings and operations declined 3.0 percent over the year.

The apparel index was down 1.2 percent over the year, following larger declines over the previous two years. Apparel prices in Kansas City declined 12.3 percent over the three year period from the first half of 2001 to the first half of 2004.

Transportation prices increased 2.1 percent over the year, with costs for private transportation increasing 2.2 percent. Within transportation, motor fuel prices in Kansas City were up 13.6 percent from their first half 2003 level.

Medical care costs declined 1.3 percent for the year. This was the first annual decline in the medical care index for Kansas City since 1997.

Recreation prices in Kansas City edged up 0.6 percent while costs for education and communication declined 1.5 percent from the first half of 2003 to the first half of 2004. Prices for other goods and services increased 1.7 percent over the same period.

The Kansas City CPI-U stood at 179.6 for the first half of 2004. This means that a market basket of goods and services that cost \$100.00 in 1982-84 cost \$179.60 in the first half of 2004.

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Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes for semiannual averages and percent changes for selected periods

Kansas City, MO-KS (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Semiannual average indexes			Percent change to 1st half 2004 from-	
	1st half 2003	2nd half 2003	1st half 2004	1st half 2003	2nd half 2003
Expenditure category					
All items.....	176.6	177.4	179.6	1.7	1.2
All items (1967=100).....	524.2	526.8	533.3	-	-
Food and beverages.....	175.1	177.8	180.1	2.9	1.3
Food.....	176.3	179.2	181.6	3.0	1.3
Food at home.....	171.6	174.2	177.8	3.6	2.1
Food away from home.....	183.9	187.1	189.8	3.2	1.4
Alcoholic beverages.....	160.0	158.4	160.8	.5	1.5
Housing.....	172.9	175.5	177.2	2.5	1.0
Shelter.....	192.4	195.6	197.9	2.9	1.2
Rent of primary residence.....	193.1	194.5	196.3	1.7	.9
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence (1) .....	188.4	191.2	194.3	3.1	1.6
Fuels and utilities.....	156.6	160.8	163.1	4.2	1.4
Fuels.....	132.9	140.8	141.0	6.1	.1
Gas (piped) and electricity.....	133.0	141.3	141.2	6.2	-.1
Electricity.....	94.2	101.0	94.8	.6	-6.1
Utility (piped) gas service.....	188.8	198.4	210.2	11.3	5.9
Household furnishings and operations.....	128.3	127.3	124.4	-3.0	-2.3
Apparel.....	106.9	106.6	105.6	-1.2	-.9
Transportation.....	153.1	151.7	156.3	2.1	3.0
Private transportation.....	151.6	150.2	155.0	2.2	3.2
Motor fuel.....	136.5	133.7	155.1	13.6	16.0
Gasoline (all types).....	136.5	133.6	155.0	13.6	16.0
Gasoline, unleaded regular (2).....	133.1	130.2	151.4	13.7	16.3
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade (2) (3).....	164.9	161.3	186.2	12.9	15.4
Gasoline, unleaded premium (2).....	136.3	134.4	154.6	13.4	15.0
Medical care.....	271.9	270.1	268.5	-1.3	-.6
Recreation (4).....	109.5	109.3	110.2	.6	.8
Education and communication (4).....	114.3	112.7	112.6	-1.5	-.1
Other goods and services.....	307.9	308.9	313.2	1.7	1.4
Commodity and service group					
All items.....	176.6	177.4	179.6	1.7	1.2
Commodities.....	152.3	151.3	152.9	.4	1.1
Commodities less food and beverages.....	140.3	137.5	138.6	-1.2	.8
Nondurables less food and beverages.....	159.7	158.1	163.6	2.4	3.5
Durables.....	117.2	113.6	111.1	-5.2	-2.2
Services.....	200.7	203.3	206.0	2.6	1.3
Special aggregate indexes					
All items less medical care.....	171.3	172.2	174.5	1.9	1.3
All items less shelter.....	171.8	171.9	173.9	1.2	1.2
Commodities less food.....	140.8	138.0	139.2	-1.1	.9
Nondurables.....	167.3	167.8	171.7	2.6	2.3
Nondurables less food.....	159.6	158.0	163.2	2.3	3.3
Services less rent of shelter (1) .....	217.6	219.8	222.9	2.4	1.4
Services less medical care services.....	193.9	196.5	199.2	2.7	1.4
Energy.....	134.7	137.2	147.5	9.5	7.5
All items less energy.....	182.9	183.7	184.9	1.1	.7
All items less food and energy.....	184.4	184.7	185.6	.7	.5

- 1 Index is on a December 1982=100 base.
- 2 Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.
- 3 Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.
- 4 Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.
- Data not available.

Regions defined as the four Census regions. See map in technical notes.  
NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.